

LITERARY NOTES.

A portrait of Matthew Arnold will accompany the article on the English critic and poet which Mr. Henry James has prepared for the next number of *The English Illustrated Magazine*.

Colonel Charles King, U. S. A., has been writing a sequel to his clever novel, "The Colonel's Daughter." He has also been preparing a military work, "The Great Land Battles of the Earth." It is a rather tautological title.

The twenty-fourth edition of a German translation of Baron Teunissen, D'Ynnou's poem of "Enoch Arden" has just been brought out in Hamburg.

An English writer has just discovered that Shakespeare disliked dogs, looking upon them all more or less as curs, snappish and cowardly. Sir Henry Holland once lost a dog of a guinea owing to his failure to find a dog spoken kindly of by Shakespeare.

Charles Rendle is ill—too ill, he declares, "to sit down to his desk and elaborate anything."

A handsome new edition of Professor G. F. Fisher's "History of the Reformation" has been brought out by the Scribners. Professor Fisher says in a note to this edition: "The Church of the Middle Ages I do not consider 'a mitigated evil,' but an incalculable benefit to society. What is said of the Papacy should not be understood of the Church, or the organized collective influence of Christianity. But even the Papacy, as is shown, was in the medieval period, in many respects, a beneficent institution."

Caroline of Brunswick is picturesquely called in a review in *The Spectator*, King George's "excruciating wife."

The Harpers have just published Mr. Rolfe's edition of "Titus Andronicus." The editor had intended to omit this play from his edition of Shakespeare, and now includes it only in deference to the advice of many friends on both sides of the Atlantic. Most of these friends, he declares, agree with him that Gentle Will probably had little to do with writing the play. The text is given without expurgation.

A correspondent of *The Transcript* says that Arnold went out of his way "and forced circumstances" for an ill-natured fling at Hawthorne, thereby showing himself in no whit superior to the average English tourist who crosses the seas of which Great Britain is the reputed mistress, accepts the hospitality and the homage of the truly literate guild of Boston and Cambridge, and goes home and patronizes or abuses us.

Miss Blanche W. Howard's novel of "Guen" has gone into a tenth edition.

The late James Thomson, the author of "The City of Dreadful Night," left an unpublished poem called "The Doom of a City." It is founded upon a story in the "Arabian Nights" which relates how the inhabitants of a city were all turned into stone. It is entirely unlike "The City of Dreadful Night," and the portrait of the author will be given with the forthcoming volume of his poems, which will also contain a Memoir in which the story of Mr. Thomson's unhappy life is told for the first time.

Mr. R. H. Horne is still seriously ill and it is feared that his sight will entirely fail.

That clever and somewhat brutal person, Frederick the Great, had a Swiss attendant called Cotte, who read to him every day for a few hours. Sometimes the King, who was fond of reading aloud, relieved his dependent, and read himself, interspersing these readings with highly original remarks. It appears that these royal remarks were duly noted down by Cotte, and his manuscript book has found its way into the Prussian state archives, whence it has lately been taken for publication.

The Rev. Constantine Standen, of the Episcopal Italian Mission of this city, has prepared and published a new collection of Italian hymns for the use of the mission. It is strange that some one has not done this before, as the Italians are essentially a musical people and music must be an important aid in Italian religious worship. The volume contains smooth and poetic versions of some of the best known hymns of ancient and modern times, and will doubtless prove popular in Italian congregations.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

HISTORY OF THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA. By Geo. P. Lathrop. Large 8vo, pp. 170. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co.)

GENES OF PORTENT. 1883.

POEMS AND SWEDISH TRANSLATIONS. By Frederick Peterson, M. D. 12mo, pp. 222. (Buffalo, N. Y.: Peter Paul & Sons.)

LEGENDS OF LE DETROIT. By Maria Caroline Watson Hamilton. 12mo, pp. 317. (Detroit: Thorndike No. 10.)

TO LEWARD. By F. Marion Crawford. 16mo, pp. 411. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

SHAKESPEARE'S TRAGEDIES OF THE ANTONIOVICHES. Edited by Wm. J. Rolfe, A. M. 12mo, pp. 171. (Harper & Bros.)

THE TRUE STORY OF THOSE DREADFUL MOUSE BOTS. Original Illustrations. By Frances Porter. 12mo, pp. 262. (Boston: Charles H. Whiting.)

ELECTRICITY. By Lieut. Bradley A. Fiske, U. S. N. 8vo, pp. 270. (D. Van Nostrand, New York.)

MICHAELSON'S ESSAYS AND LETTERS. By Thomas B. Hazard. 16mo, pp. 354. (Philadelphia: Collins, Printer.)

OUR CHRISTMAS PALACE. By Edward Everett Hale. 12mo, pp. 268. (Falm & Wagnall.)

THE EXCITATION OF THE REVENGE. By Leonora Ferret. Translated from the French by Alvirre. 12mo, pp. 313. (Chicago: Rand, McNally & Co.)

BOUCHES OF HISTORY IN THE PENTATEUCH. By Samuel C. Bartlett, D. D., LL. D. 16mo, pp. 246. (Amos D. F. Randolph & Co.)

HOPPE'S HEAVY METALS. A Romance. By Mrs. R. L. Oberlin. 12mo, pp. 262. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co.)

DOWN IN THE CLOVER, AND OTHER STORIES. By Amanda Shaw Knicker. Small 8vo, pp. 81. (St. W. Green's Sons.)

ANNA WATER. By Robert Buchanan. (Harper's Franklin Square Library.)

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